NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

RONALD J. TENPAS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

February 2, 2004

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **DAVID KEITH DUFFY**, **JR.**, age 27, of New Haven, Illinois, was sentenced in United States District Court on Friday, January 30, 2004, to a term of 81 months in the Bureau of Prisons. **DUFFY** had previously pled guilty to Conspiracy to Manufacture and Distribute a Mixture or Substance containing Methamphetamine. In addition, the Defendant was ordered to forfeit all of the proceeds from his drug manufacturing and trafficking activities.

DUFFY was indicted along with fourteen other individuals as a result of his involvement in a large methamphetamine manufacturing organization, which operated in White, Gallatin, and Saline Counties and elsewhere in the State of Illinois and other states. The indictment alleged that the organization operated between at least August 2000 and November 2002. Two other conspirators were charged separately.

To date, nine of Duffy's co-defendants in this case have been sentenced in United States District Court in Benton. **DAVID KEITH DUFFY, SR.**, of New Haven, Illinois, was sentenced to 324 months imprisonment on July 24, 2003. **JACQUELINE MICHELE DUFFY**, of New Haven, Illinois, was sentenced to 135 months imprisonment on July 24, 2003. **JAMES JOSEPH WATHEN**, of Eldorado, Illinois, was sentenced to 228 months imprisonment on December 5, 2003. **RONALD DENEEN BELFORD**, of Ridgeway, Illinois, was sentenced to 135 months imprisonment on October 17, 2003. **DEBORAH HOPE HON**, of Carmi, Illinois, was sentenced to 151 months imprisonment on October 10, 2003. **TISCHA B. MILLER**, or Mount Vernon, Indiana, was sentenced to 87 months imprisonment on July 16, 2003. **SUSAN MICHELE MINICK**, or Mount Vernon, Indiana, was sentenced to 121 months imprisonment on July 16, 2003. **PATRICIA GAIL CLARK**, of Mount Vernon, Indiana, was sentenced to 135 months imprisonment on July 23, 2003. One coconspirator is awaiting trial, one is awaiting sentencing, and three remain fugitives.

This case is being prosecuted at part of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF). Evidence in this investigation was obtained in an investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, the West Frankfort (Illinois) Police Department, the Illinois State Police, and the Posey, County (Indiana) Narcotics Unit Several large methamphetamine laboratories were discovered at various locations within the Southern District of Illinois, and dismantled during the course of this investigation. The investigation continues.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randy G. Massey.